

## Watershed Working Group

May 6, 2021: 9am – 11:00am; DCRM Conference Room & via Google Meet

### Attendees:

Ilan Bubb (DCRM – Coral Fellow), Zachary Williams (DCRM), Mary Fem Urena (DCRM), Olivia Tenorio (DEQ), Robbie Greene (NOAA), Brooke Nevitte (NPS), Steve McKagan (NOAA), Wayne Dawe (MINA), Janice Castro (DCRM), Jedidiah Dunn (USDA-NRCS), Lori Schultz (USACE), Matthew (USDA-NRCS), Merrill Ayuyu (DEQ), Patricia Fontanet (USACE), Pedro Tudela (DLNR-Forestry), Rich Salas (DCRM), Ruzel Ednalino (USACE), Travis Spaeth (DEQ), Zabrina Shai (DEQ), Anne Kitchell (Horsley Witten), Arthur Charfauros (DCRM), Atdao Rosario (DCRM), Becky Furey (MINA), Carmelita Delacruz (DEQ), Edwin Hofschneider (DCRM), Elise Jarrett (USACE), Larry Maurin (DEQ), Kylie Hasegawa (DCRM)

### Dates to Remember:

### Speakers

Opening and introductions

<https://dcrm.gov.mp/our-programs/water-quality-and-watershed-management/watershed-working-group/>

- I. Anne Kitchell (Horsley Witten) [[akitchell@horsleywitten.com](mailto:akitchell@horsleywitten.com)]  
[See PowerPoint slides linked via WWG page]
  - Laolao Bay Watershed Management Plan (LWMP) development update
    - Interim Report
      - Expanded watershed boundaries to include portions of Dandan & Kagman as subwatersheds.
      - Conditions and opportunities not fully assessed.
      - No data on groundwater [DATA NEEDED]
      - Report compiles what we do know, previous CAP goals/obj/actions and progress towards these, pollutant load modeling (TSS, nitrogen, bacteria → want to estimate load reduction based on restoration/BMP projects)
      - Stakeholder workshop (Jan. 2020) feedback
      - Field visits, assessments, mapping potential projects.
        - Drainage infrastructure “pretty good”
        - WebMap: <https://arcg.is/j1eqD0>
        - Field notes in appendix with “ready to go” projects
      - Unclear policies regarding private land conservation in watershed, particularly along Laolao Bay Rd.
      - Need to ground CAP TMDL goals [FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION WITH DEQ WATER QUALITY]
    - Data needs
      - TMDL
      - Digital copy of CAP missing Appendix 2 (technical report establishing baseline WQ targets [ZW WILL LOOK FOR ORIGINAL COPY])
      - Water quality data 2017–2018
      - Sea turtle, urchin, fish, & coral density data to compare to baseline in order to determine if CAP goals have been met.
      - Kiho Kim nitrogen studies  
[\[http://deq.gov.mp/resources/files/branches/WQS/2020%20knapp%20water.pdf\]](http://deq.gov.mp/resources/files/branches/WQS/2020%20knapp%20water.pdf)
    - Stakeholder input
      - Limited do to COVID.

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- Mostly from Jan. 2020 workshop
- Public input lacking
  - Survey Monkey coming soon.
- Action Plan
  - Drainage improvements
  - Shoreline stabilization & infrastructure protection
  - Carry-over actions from CAP
  - Watershed forestry
  - Additional assessments in Dandan & Kagman subwatersheds
  - Outreach & education plan (residential, tourists, schools)
  - Monitoring plan
    - Stream flow and sediment loads
    - Integrating existing marine monitoring program
    - Nutrient source tracking
- Next steps
  - CAP evaluation
  - Resident survey
  - Draft action plan
  - Draft education & outreach plan
  - Submit advanced concepts for review
  - Model potential, achievable load reductions
  - Draft Management Plan
- Q&A
  - Former juvenile detention center sinkhole expanding, Gaggap Rd. to be closed.
  - No retention basins or other BMPs identified within Laolao stream corridors; streams not surveyed by HW
  - Pedro to share Dandan stream map
- Achugao Watershed Management Plan (AWMP) development update
  - Extended project timeline to Feb. 2022, still plan to finalize by Fall 2021
  - Received comments on Interim Report
  - Drafted concept designs for Kensington, Aqua Resort, Tanapag Middle School, Tanapag Beach Park, culverts/green streets along Middle Rd.
  - Prepared two public meetings (Tanapag & San Roque) but canceled due to COVID; rescheduling in development.
  - Data needs
    - Kensington hotel site plans/drainage plans
    - Stream walk data
    - Wetland RAM data [ZW TO SHARE WITH HW]
    - Priority habitats in watershed
    - Status of OPD Comprehensive Plan

## II. Zak Williams (DCRM – Watershed Coordinator)

[See PowerPoint slides linked via WWG page]

- Updates on Watershed Projects:
  - Watershed Warriors
    - Three-year DOI funded implementation at GTC Elem. in San Roque
    - First classes April–May 2021

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- To be expanded next school year.
- Raingardens
  - Tanapag renovation and planting on April 22, 2021.
    - Funding and volunteer support from DEQ.
    - To be continued with additional drainage improvements.
    - <https://www.saipantribune.com/index.php/learning-about-the-environment-in-schools/>

### III. Ilan Bubb (DCRM – Coral Management Fellow)

[See PowerPoint slides linked via WWG page]

- Fire Management Plan
  - Workshop held March 26, 2021
    - Goals developed:
      - Increased institutional understanding of fires on Saipan.
      - Reeducation in fire vulnerable lands.
      - Establish municipal trash collection.
      - Formalize coordination of relevant stakeholder groups.
  - Draft by end of July, finalize by Jan. 2022.
  - Ilan will be reaching out to specific agencies/stakeholders for more info.
  - Draft to be posted to WWG for comment.
- Q&A
  - Waste diversion
    - Speak to Peggy Denny on Guam

### *Roundtable Discussion*

Larry Maurin (DEQ/EPA)

- Water quality standards triennial review
- Public engagement process
- Copy of proposed updates to standards for public comment.

Mary Fem Urena (DCRM)

- Nature-Based Solutions Virtual Workshop
  - If interested, please email Mary at [murena@dcrm.gov.mp](mailto:murena@dcrm.gov.mp)
  - Full announcement soon.
  - Week of August 23 (TBD)

Rich Salas (DCRM)

- Wetland delineation (USACE methodology) training in December
  - If interested, please email Rich at [rsalas@dcrm.gov.mp](mailto:rsalas@dcrm.gov.mp)

Pedro Tudelo (DLNR-Forestry)

- Awarded grant
- Sept. 2021 start
- 40 acres reforestation in Laolao Bay watershed

Robbie Green (NOAA, Pacific CRP)

- New email [robbie.greene@pacificcrp.org](mailto:robbie.greene@pacificcrp.org)